

PALOS HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 128
MINUTES OF THE PFA BOARD MEETING
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Board Members Present: Lisa Freimuth, Colleen Gundogdu, Julie O’Kane
Teacher: Stacey Darwent

Board Members Absent: Jessica Schultz, Suzanne Cusack, Jill Curtain, Jen Holmstrom
Teacher: Erica Germany

District Staff Present: Dr. Merryl Brownlow, Dr. Kevin Kirk, Lynn Adamonis, Mary
Lynn Duffy, Cathy Leslie

District Staff Absent: n/a

Audience: n/a

Call to Order: Lisa Freimuth called meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

May 2019 Minutes and Treasurer's Report: Lisa Freimuth moved to approve the May minutes and Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Colleen Gundogdu.

Adjournment: Lisa Freimuth adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Dr. Merryl Brownlow – District Report

- Thank you to the PFA for being such an engaged group. It has helped for a smooth start. The Ice Cream Social was great.
- Buses are a challenge, as there is a bus driver shortage. The change of start times did help a lot in terms of consistency with our drivers for most of our buses.
- We will be going out to solicit quotes from architectural firms and White will be one of the presenters. We need a full facility and long range, 5 year, needs assessment. We have some major things that need attention. All four roofs will need to be replaced in the next three years.
- We have some other larger capital projects... The Indian Hill playground and other bigger projects. Our bond money is expiring and will be paid off this year, so in the spring we will start to consider doing a five year financial, long-range plan for the district.

Dr. Kevin Kirk – Independence Junior High Report

- The school year has started off great. On the first half day we did our big reveal day for our new 6th grade and transfer students. They got inducted into their “Houses.” We had some team building activities built around that.
- We did a lot of team and relationship building in the classrooms. Our theme this year is “Social and Emotional.” At the Institute day, the teachers participated in

social and emotional activities. There was a presenter focusing on team building activities with students.

- October 5th is the Band Pumpkin Patch at Independence. The Band will perform at the Chicago Columbus Day Parade.
- Dr. Kirk asked Dr. Brownlow to mention October 16th. Dr. Brownlow stated that on the evening of October 16th, Carrie Goldman will be coming to present on bullying.

Mrs. Lynn Adamonis – Navajo Report

- It's been a great beginning of the year. The teachers have taken their time getting to know the kids.
- Imagination Theater came in with "Ease the Tease" as the focus this year. Thank you to the PFA for sponsoring it.
- Our blacktop was done. A quote came in at around \$1,200 to \$1,300 for stenciling the basketball net, four square, hop scotch and a jump rope station.

Mary Lynn Duffy –Indian Hill & Chippewa Report

- Thank you for the Ice Cream Social. More than average Navajo kids came and it was a nice teacher turnout as well.
- There is a 4th Kindergarten classroom. We did a Parent Information Night right before school started. Mrs. Muller did a presentation on mathematical minds and mathematical information for the youngest learner. It's a pathway to make parents more comfortable with the math standards and the way that math is now taught. There was a great turnout and parents seemed very interested.
- We are continuing PBIS at both Indian Hill and Chippewa. The older kids have already had their kickoff. We are really focusing on the lunchroom this year.
- We have 40 staff members doing a book club on different topics under the umbrella of social/emotional development. One that we are focusing on is the responsive classroom. Allison Miller, our pre-k through 3rd grade music teacher, along with some art classes, is very well trained in this approach.
- We are continuing Motivation Mondays when staff and students wear motivational tee-shirts. It continues to create a positive climate and generates positive conversation.
- 1st graders took the MAP test. Teachers will use the Spring MAP data for 2nd and 3rd grade students to look at differentiation for the Fall.
- 3rd graders are on a field trip today at County Line Orchard.

Cathy Leslie – Indian Hill Report

- We are meeting at Indian Hill with our PBIS committee on Monday morning to plan our launch.
- Preschool and Kindergartners are learning their routines nicely. Lunch and recess are going well. This year, all Kindergartners are eating lunch before recess.
- There are a couple of new paraprofessionals at Indian Hill that are doing a great job supporting our kids with special needs in the preschool and they do lunch and recess with Kindergarten.
- Preschool is planning a trip to the Lincoln Park Zoo on October 7th.

Colleen Gundogdu – PFA Vice President's Report

- The Pumpkin Raffle is coming out tomorrow.

Lisa Freimuth – PFA President's Report

- Oktoberfest is coming along. They have met several times and are working on getting everything finalized.
- Spirit Wear is up and rolling. We have lowered almost all of the prices on our items, which seems to be attracting more sales.